

is not recorded even further south along the Kenya coast and, possibly, from Tanzanian waters as well in due course.

Single specimens of Wedge-tailed Shearwater *Puffinus pacificus* are not unusual in December off Mtwapa but, between 30 November and 5 December 1991 they were present with most mixed tern flocks feeding at bonito "boils". Numbers seen ranged from singles to 12 at a feeding site, and two or three together were common. Fishing the same area on 16 and 17 December no *P. pacificus* were recorded, but a solitary Audubon's Shearwater *P. lherminieri* was seen.

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### Notes on birds from southwest Tanzania including an addition to the East African avifauna

On 27 July 1990 an overnight visit was made to the village of Mumba (08°10S, 31°51E), about 35 km southeast of Sumbawanga town on the road to Tunduma, southwestern Tanzania. The general habitat is short montane grassland on gently undulating terrain 1900-2300 m above sea level. This area is drained by a number of small, clear streams that join to form the Mumba Stream.

Around the source of the Mumba and along its tributaries are extensive reed beds in which are found a number of interesting birds species. Red-chested Pygmy Crake *Sarothrura rufa*, was common here: at least ten birds were heard calling along a 1-km stretch of reeds. The Little Rush Warbler *Bradypterus baboecala*, Stout Cisticola *Cisticola robusta*, African Marsh Owl *Asio capensis*, and Cape Grass Owl *Tyto capensis*, were also common. One of the more interesting species recorded in the reeds, however, was the Chirping Cisticola *Cisticola pipiens*. This species was very common; at least 15 individuals in several family parties were observed in a 10-ha area. On a previous visit to this locality (Moyer & Stjernstedt 1985), a number of Chirping Cisticolas were observed and their unmistakable call heard; however, no descriptions, photographs, or recordings were made, and their occurrence in East Africa remained subject to confirmation. On this visit two individuals were netted, and voucher specimens were prepared (Table 1).

Table 1. Measurements (g and mm) of two specimens of Chirping Cisticola *Cisticola pipiens* from southwestern Tanzania

weight	sex	wing (flat)	tail	tarsus	maxilla (from skull)	mandible (from gonyes)
13.5	imm. F	57	69	20.9	15.4	7.1
14.5g	ad. M	65	76	22.9	17.4	8.9

Another species tentatively reported from montane grassland at Mumba by Moyer & Stjernstedt (1985) was the Angola Lark *Mirafra angolensis*. The admission of this

species into the East African avifauna remained subject to confirmation because supporting details for this record were lacking. During this visit at least six birds were seen at a distance and tape recordings were made of their distinctive song-flight. These recordings were nearly identical to recordings of Angola Lark made in Western Zambia by Robert Stjernstedt. The birds at Mumba were shy and although the birds recorded were Angola Larks, they were never seen well enough to confirm their identity. In spite of the tape recordings it is probably best to wait for a specimen, photograph, or good sight record before admitting this species to the East Africa list.

The Angola Lark ranges from extreme Western Zambia, the central highlands of Angola, to the southern and eastern Zaïre in Shaba (Katanga) and the Marungu Highlands. The closest reported records of Angola Lark to the Ufipa Plateau are from the Marungu Highlands 200 km northwest across Lake Tanganyika (White 1961, Dowsett & Prigogine 1974). On other highland areas, east of the Ufipa Plateau in the Tanganyika-Nyasa mountains, the Rufous-naped Lark *M. africana* is the common montane lark (Dowsett 1972). This species has not yet been found on the Ufipa Plateau. It is unlikely that this noisy and conspicuous lark would be overlooked, and is probably why Dowsett (1972) stated that there was no montane lark on Ufipa. At Mumba the Rufous-naped Lark almost certainly does not occur and may have been replaced there and on all of Ufipa by the Angola Lark, as on the Marungu Highlands. The only other species of *Mirafra* found at Mumba and on the Ufipa Plateau is the widespread Flappet Lark *M. rufocinnamomea*.

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